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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/059,633	01/29/2002	Maxwell Yip	SIE-0092	7517

23413 7590 10/20/2003

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BLOOMFIELD, CT 06002

EXAMINER

DONOVAN, LINCOLN D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2832

DATE MAILED: 10/20/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Applicati n No.

10/059,633

Applicant(s)

YIP ET AL.

Examiner

Lincoln Donovan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-2, 4, 6-10 and 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leonard et al. [US 6,595,801] in view of Maranto et al. [US 5,934,940].

Leonard et al. disclose an electrical connector [14] mounted on a printed circuit board [18] comprising:

- a conductive housing [68] having a top, a bottom, side walls joining the top and bottom, an outer shield and an inner shield, the top, bottom, side walls being in electrical contact [figure 3];
- a vertical shield [44] extending between the top and bottom; and
- a horizontal shield [82] positioned between the top and bottom and between the side walls, the horizontal shield and the vertical shield dividing defining four quadrants, each of which containing contacts [figure 10]; and
- wherein the contacts each have a contact tail extending downwards beyond the printed circuit board, the inner shield having an

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extension, received in a slot in the circuit board, extending downwards beyond the printed circuit board between the contact tails [figure 6].

Leonard et al. disclose the instant claimed invention except for: the connector being used for telecommunications.

Maranto et al. disclose a shielded connector [figure 10] for telecommunications mounted on a printed circuit board [16].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the connectors of Leonard et al. be used for telecommunications, as suggested by Maranto et al., for the purpose of providing shielding between multiple telecommunication connectors.

The use of a ring and tip contact is well known for use with telecommunications connectors in order to activate the connector.

Regarding claims 2 and 6, Leonard et al., as modified, disclose the protruding portion of the extension being equal to that of the contacts.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that the protruding length and shape of the shield and shape of the slot could have been adjusted dependent upon the mounting environment and necessary shielding.

Regarding claim 8, the particular arrangement of the pins would have been an obvious design consideration based on the specific application of the connector.

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Claims 3, 5 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leonard et al., as modified, as applied to claims 1 and 7 above, and further in view of Hood, III et al. [US 6,053,771].

Leonard et al., as modified, disclose the instant claimed invention except for the extension and slots in the circuit board being metal plated.

Hood, III et al. discloses a metal plated shield [301] for insertion within a slot on a circuit board [column 4, line 55-column 5, line 3].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to plate the shielding/slot of Leonard et al. with metal, as suggested by Hood, III et al., for the purpose of improving conductivity.

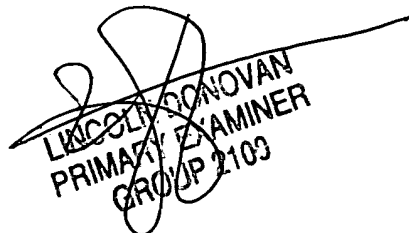
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lincoln Donovan whose telephone number is 703 308-3111. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Elvin Enad can be reached on (703) 308-7619. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1920.

ldd
10/12/03


LINCOLN DONOVAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 2103